

FBI

Date: 8/4/64

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TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (105-82555)

FROM: LEGAT, MEXICO (105-3702) (P)

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD, AKA
IS - R - CUBA

Re Dallas telephone call to Mexico City 7/17/64, advising that Mr. WALTER E. CRAIG, President of the American Bar Association, would be in Mexico City and that in connection with Mr. CRAIG's work with the President's Commission he should be contacted here and extended courtesies.

Mr. CRAIG was contacted at his hotel on 7/24/64 following his arrival in Mexico City from Guadalajara. At that time he was most high in his praise of SAC J. GORDON SHANKLIN and Agents of the Dallas Office for assistance rendered him while in Dallas. He advised that he was expecting the arrival in Mexico City of several other members of the American Bar Association who had been assisting the President's Commission and he preferred to await their arrival before discussing the ramifications of the OSWALD case in Mexico.

The writer again met with Mr. CRAIG on 7/27/64, at which time also were present Mr. LEWIS F. POWELL, JR., President-elect of the American Bar Association, Mr. CHARLES S. RHINE of the District of Columbia, and Mr. EDWARD L. WRIGHT of Arkansas. Mr. CRAIG assured that these three men had all been working very closely with the President's Commission and their conversation indicated that they were quite familiar with the OSWALD case.

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Bureau
(1 - Liaison Section)
KC2 - Dallas, 100-10461
4 - MAR 5 - Mexico City
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SOVIET SECTION

Approved: 207

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Per

4 AUG 20 1964 Special Agent in Charge

PERS. REC. UNIT

Section 201

At the request of Mr. CRAIG the writer gave them a brief oral summary with regard to OSWALD's known movements and contacts in Mexico. Mr. CRAIG and the others expressed their appreciation for the information.

Mr. CRAIG was asked as to whether he and the others would be interested in seeing such places as the hotel where OSWALD stayed in Mexico City, the travel agency where he purchased his bus ticket, and general areas in the neighborhood of the Cuban and Soviet Embassies here. He replied that he did not feel this was necessary. It might be noted that Mr. CRAIG and the others were in Mexico City primarily for the purpose of attending the meeting of the International Bar Association and it was the writer's impression gained from conversation with them that they only desired the oral briefing in order to be in a position to answer any questions which might be raised by members of the President's Commission following the return of Mr. CRAIG and the others to Washington.

Mr. CRAIG and the others appeared to be completely friendly and well-disposed toward the Bureau. No information of particular interest to the Bureau was obtained from them other than the fact that Mr. CRAIG mentioned that the Commission was trying to finish its report by 8/7/64. He expressed a strong doubt that this would be accomplished.

Mr. CRAIG made no additional requests concerning the OSWALD case during the remaining few days that he was in Mexico.

With regard to the pending request of the President's Commission made through the U. S. State Department and the Embassy here to the Mexican Foreign Office for permission to publish material supplied by the Mexican Government in an official report, the following is submitted for the Bureau's information.

Through Foreign Secretary JOSE GOROSTIZA the Mexican Government has informally indicated to Ambassador FULTON FREEMAN that it has no objection to the publication of information contained in its official report and accompanying documents with the one exception of the publication of the signed statement given to the Mexican Government by SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN. From statements made by GOROSTIZA to the Ambassador, it would appear that the Mexican Government is fearful that publication of DURAN's statement in the President's Commission's report might lead to repercussions with the Cuban Government, with which Mexico still maintains diplomatic relations. The Bureau

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will recall that the Cuban Government tried to deliver a strong note of protest to the Mexican Government following the detention and interrogation of DURAN by Mexican police officials in November, 1963. The Mexican Government rejected this note on the grounds that DURAN is a Mexican citizen and that the Cuban Embassy had not notified the Mexican Foreign Office officially that she was an employee of the Cuban Embassy here.

On 8/4/64 Mr. WALLACE W. STUART, Counselor for Political Affairs, advised that Ambassador FREEMAN had again seen Foreign Secretary GOROSTIZA on 8/3/64, at which time GOROSTIZA advised that he is making a further study of the DURAN statement and hopes to be able to approve publication of the pertinent parts of the statement which have to do with OSWALD's contact with the Cuban and Soviet Embassies here.

The above is submitted for the Bureau's information.

Two extra copies of this airtel are attached for forwarding by the Bureau to Dallas, the office of origin.